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[13846/10701]

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
GROUP ART UNIT 3733

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s) : LOMBARDO et al.
Serial No. : 10/676,062
Filed : October 1, 2003
For : BONE PLATE ASSEMBLY PROVIDED WITH SCREW
LOCKING MECHANISMS
Examiner : James L. Swiger III
Art Unit : 3733
Confirmation No. : 7724

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on:

Date:

Signature:

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

S I R:

This paper is filed in response to the Final Office Action dated November 16, 2006 in connection with the above-captioned application. Applicants respectfully petition for a three month extension of time, and authorize payment of the required fee in the accompanying transmittal.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.